



~~MR. MURPHY~~ G.407
1. ~~Dr. Dismorey~~
2. ~~Mr. Morley Perry~~ A.419
3. ~~Mr. Perry~~ A.405
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BOROUGH OF DARWEN

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1967

B O R O U G H O F D A R W E N

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year

1967

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Medical Officer of Health.....	{	R. C. Webster, T.D., B.Sc.,
Divisional Medical Officer,	{	M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.
Lancashire County Council.....	{	
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.....	{	Sheila M. Wheeler, L.R.C.P.,
Senior Assistant Divisional	{	L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S.,
Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council.....	{	D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector.....	{	H. Ramsbottom, C.S.I.B., Cert.
	{	Insp. Meat and Other Foods,
	{	M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.....	{	P.H. Watson, C.S.I.B., Cert.
	{	Insp. Meat and Other Foods,
	{	M.A.P.H.I.
District Public Health Inspectors.....	{	T. Gregson, C.S.I.B., Cert.
	{	Insp. Meat and Other Foods,
	{	M.A.P.H.I.
	{	B. Taylor, Diploma in Public
	{	Health.
Technical Assistant.....	{	V. Griffiths.
Chief Clerk.....	{	J. Bolton.
Clerical Staff.....	{	Miss. M. Duckworth.
	{	Miss. M. A. Hoyle.
Rodent Operator.....	{	H. Brady.
Municipal Hostel, Warden.....	{	R. W. Kilpatrick.
Matron.....	{	Mrs. P. Kilpatrick.
Mortuary Attendant (Part-time).....	{	A. Bowcock.



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CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Child Welfare & Diphtheria Immunisation	Civic Health Centre	Monday.....2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
	St. Chad's Clinic	Wednesday.....10 a.m.	
	Spring Vale Clinic	Wednesday..... 10 a.m.	
Ante-Natal	Civic Health Centre	Thursday..... 10 a.m.	Lancashire County Council
		Wednesday..... 2 p.m.	
		Friday..... 2 p.m. (Specialist)	
Ante-Natal Relaxation	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
Speech Therapy	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday a.m. and p.m. Friday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Maternity & Child Welfare Dental and School Dental	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
School Clinics	Civic Health Centre	Minor Ailments Monday to Friday 9 a.m. & 4 p.m. Friday..... 2 p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Ophthalmic	Civic Health Centre	Monday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council

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... continued...

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Ear, Nose and Throat	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Orthopaedic	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Chiropodist	Civic Health Centre	Monday to Friday a.m. and p.m. Except Wednesday a.m. only. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Cardiac Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn	1st Tuesday in every month 11 a.m. (by appointment)	Blackburn & District Hospital Management Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	Tuesday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 10 to 11.15 a.m. and 1.40 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday 8.50 am to 12 noon	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	Males & Females Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
B.C.G. Vaccination Prevention of Tuberculosis	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	By appointment	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Poliomyelitis	Civic Health Centre St. Chad's Clinic Spring Vale Clinic	Monday p.m. Thursday p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. Wednesday 10 a.m.	Lancashire County Council

CIVIC HEALTH CENTRE,
DARWEN.

July, 1968.

TO THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the HEALTH COMMITTEE

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for 1967.

General statistics for the year were satisfactory: the birth rate showed little change, the death rate was a little lower; infant mortality and still birth rates satisfactorily low, and comparing quite well with national figures. Also the main causes of death were those associated with the older years of life. No serious infections occurred, even the customary biennial rise in measles was not marked. A report on the Health of Darwen to-day is indeed very different to what it was at the turn of the century, indeed very different to my own earlier reports. By now I have known a whole generation of Darwen and in that time I have seen many welcome changes.

I thank you again, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee for your unfailing support and interest and all the staff for another good year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1.

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Statistics and Social Conditions

General Provisions of the Health Services

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

BY

R. C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

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		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
LIVE BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	234	232	466	Birth- rate per 1,000 Estimated Home Population mid 1967 Crude 17.9 Adjusted 19.9
	{ Illegitimate	26	23	49	
	{ Total	260	255	515	
		----	----	----	
STILL BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	4	1	5	Rate per 1,000 total Births : 12
	{ Illegitimate	1	0	1	
	{ Total	5	1	6	
		----	----	----	
DEATHS	{	199	218	417	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1967 Crude 14.5 Adjusted 14.4
MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION	{ Respiratory T.B.....				0.03
	{ Malignant Neoplasms, etc.....				3.26
MATERNAL MORTALITY	{ Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion...				Nil
	{ Mortality Rate per 1,000 total Births.....				Nil
		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
INFANTILE MORTALITY (Infants under the age of one year)	{ Legitimate				
	{ Infants.....	5	2	7	
	{ Illegitimate				
	{ Infants.....	1	2	3	
	{ Total Deaths	6	4	10	
		---	---	---	

Rate per 1,000 Live Births..... 19

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

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YEAR	DARWEN	ENGLAND AND WALES
1958	20. 1	22. 5
1959	28. 4	22. 0
1960	30. 6	21. 7
1961	16. 0	21. 4
1962	6. 2	21. 4
1963	30. 7	20. 9
1964	23. 7	20. 0
1965	10. 5	19. 0
1966	27. 7	19. 0
1967	19. 0	18. 3

OTHER INFANT DEATHS

TOTAL

RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Deaths from Measles (at all ages)...	Nil	0,000
Deaths from Whooping Cough (at all ages)	Nil	0,000
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil	0,000

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	9
Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	17

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	17
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PERINATAL MORTALITY

Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births.....	29
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Please Note :-

"Perinatal Mortality" shows the total number of stillbirths and total number of Infant Deaths during the first week of age".

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 515, giving a birth-rate adjusted by comparison with the estimated home population of 19.9 per 1,000. The trend of this rate over the past ten years in comparison with the rate for England and Wales is shown in the following table --

YEAR	DARWEN			ENGLAND AND WALES	
	NUMBER OF BIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000	
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
1958	228	219	447	16.3	16.4
1959	238	220	458	16.8	16.5
1960	235	222	457	16.8	17.1
1961	250	250	500	18.2	17.4
1962	232	253	485	17.7	18.0
1963	255	266	521	19.6	18.2
1964	258	249	507	19.3	18.4
1965	246	228	474	18.1	18.1
1966	269	237	506	19.4	17.7
1967	260	255	515	19.9	17.2

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS - The following table shows the number of illegitimate births and deaths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF BIRTHS	RATE PER CENT OF LIVE BIRTHS	NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS
1958	26	5.45	Nil	Nil
1959	18	3.93	Nil	Nil
1960	19	4.15	Nil	Nil
1961	28	5.60	Nil	Nil
1962	32	6.59	Nil	Nil
1963	35	6.71	1	28
1964	34	6.70	2	59
1965	32	6.75	Nil	Nil
1966	32	6.32	Nil	Nil
1967	49	9.51	3	61

STILLBIRTHS - The table given below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	
	LEGITIMATE	ILLEGITIMATE	TOTAL		DARWEN	ENGLAND & WALES
1958	10	Nil	10	21.9	0.33	0.36
1959	14	Nil	14	29.7	0.47	0.35
1960	16	Nil	16	33.8	0.54	0.34
1961	10	4	14	27.2	0.47	0.33
1962	5	2	7	14.2	0.23	0.33
1963	10	3	13	24.3	0.44	0.32
1964	7	3	10	19.3	0.34	0.31
1965	13	1	14	28.7	0.48	0.29
1966	9	1	10	19.4	0.34	0.28
1967	5	1	6	12.0	0.20	0.26

DEATHS - The number of deaths of Darwen residents which occurred during the year was 417, representing an adjusted death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.4

The trend of the death-rate of the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales :-

YEAR	DARWEN		ENGLAND & WALES
	TOTAL DEATHS	RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
1958	507	16. 7	11. 7
1959	472	15. 7	11. 6
1960	430	14. 3	11. 5
1961	480	15. 9	12. 0
1962	462	15. 2	11. 9
1963	451	15. 3	12. 2
1964	377	13. 0	11. 3
1965	417	13. 9	11. 5
1966	470	15. 9	11. 7
1967	417	14. 4	11. 2

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Darwen residents. The information does not include non-civilian deaths :-

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, Respiratory.....	1	1	1
Tuberculosis, Other.....	1	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.....	1	1	1
Diphtheria.....	1	1	1
Whooping Cough.....	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infection.....	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	1	1
Measles.....	1	1	1
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases.....	1	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.....	13	4	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.....	19	3	22
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.....	1	8	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.....	1	3	3
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.....	22	20	42
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.....	1	1	2
Diabetes.....	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.....	18	40	58
Coronary Disease, Angina.....	53	38	91
Hypertension with Heart Disease.....	2	3	5
Other Heart Disease.....	9	31	40
Other Circulatory Disease.....	5	15	20
Influenza.....	1	1	1
Pneumonia.....	14	12	26
Bronchitis.....	16	10	26
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.....	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.....	1	2	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.....	1	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	1	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	1	1	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.....	1	1	1
Congenital Malformations.....	2	1	3
Other Defined & Ill-Defined Diseases.....	9	15	24
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	2	3	5
All Other Accidents.....	5	2	7
Suicide.....	4	2	6
Homicide and Operations of War.....	1	1	1
TOTALS.....	199	218	417

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

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A comprehensive range of services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics, Speech Therapy Clinics and other School Health Services - Medical and Dental.

Ambulance service is provided by Lancashire County Council.

Hospital services are provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board, including general hospital facilities in Blackburn and a Maternity Home in the former Darwen Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bull Hill.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Pathological and Bacteriological Department of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the examination of pathological specimens for the Borough of Darwen, in accordance with the Government scheme now being officially carried out in this area by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The bacteriological examination of food, water and other non-personal specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, acting for the Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, is shown in the following table, which includes particulars of Darwen cases notified and accepted, cases removed to hospital, and deaths from infectious diseases. The so-called minor infectious diseases, other than measles and whooping cough, are not included in the table, as they are not notifiable in Darwen and, therefore, statistics as to their incidence are not reliable.

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES AT ALL AGES	CASES NOTIFIED AND ACCEPTED									TOTAL DEATHS	HOSPITAL	
		YEARS										CASES REMO- VED	DEATHS IN HOSP- ITAL
		UN- DER 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25 & OVER			
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever,..	15	-	-	1	3	1	6	2	2	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)....	355	23	28	57	67	52	124	2	2	-	-	5	-
Whooping Cough..	84	4	5	11	15	9	35	4	1	-	-	1	-
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE POLIO- MYELITIS:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE ENCEPH- ALITIS :-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	60	1	4	1	2	1	23	4	-	24	-	4	-
Ophthalmia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Necnatorum.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MALARIA :-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contracted in England & Wales.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Abroad.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS :-	516	28	37	70	87	63	188	12	7	24	-	12	-

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years :-

DISEASE	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	10	17	103	59	15
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid).....	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	2	1	2	-	-
Measles (excluding Rubella).....	571	104	609	253	355
Whooping Cough.....	5	95	17	9	84
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal).....	1	2	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	2	-	1	2
Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS :-					
Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS:-					
Infective.....	-	-	-	-	-
Post Infectious.....	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	153	76	7	8	60
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	2	1	-	2	-
MALARIA :-					
Contracted in England and Wales.....	-	-	-	-	-
Abroad.....	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.....	4	3	2	2	-
TOTALS :-	749	302	741	334	516

TUBERCULOSIS Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board.

The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board, but the Area Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse maintain close co-operation with the Public Health Department, furnishing particulars about housing conditions and environment generally. The necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease during 1967:-

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -35	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 -45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -55	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 -65	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 -75	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 & upwards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.....	3	2	-	2	1	-	-	-
	5		2		1			

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis placed on the Register during the last ten years :-

YEAR	RESPIRATORY		NON- RESPIRATORY		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1958	11	3	2	1	17
1959	7	3	2	2	14
1960	4	5	-	-	9
1961	5	2	-	-	7
1962	4	2	-	-	6
1963	11	2	-	-	13
1964	8	1	-	-	9
1965	3	2	-	2	7
1966	2	1	1	-	4
1967	3	2	-	2	7

NATIONAL
ASSISTANCE
ACT, 1948
AND 1951
Section 47

No action taken under this
Section

TO THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the HEALTH COMMITTEE

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services for the year 1967.

The year has been one of steady progress in all fields.

A constant worry has been the rapid deterioration of houses in "twilight" areas and problems caused by large industrial concerns working throughout the night.

Solid progress was made in Smoke Control throughout the year, and a large portion of the northern end of the town is now smokeless.

There were no staff changes during the year.

I was hoping to report that for the first time for a number of years a full staff had been available during the year, but due to an unfortunate accident, Mr. J. Bolton, the Chief Clerk, was away from duty for nine and a half months.

My thanks to Miss. M. Duckworth whose excellent work during this difficult period kept the office working smoothly.

In conclusion I would like to thank Dr. Webster and Dr. Wheeler for their help and also the staff and employees of the Department, particularly my Deputy, Mr. P.H. Watson, for their keenness and co-operation, and finally to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I am Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. RAMSBOTTOM,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

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WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water from the Fylde Water Board. The higher parts of the town are supplied from Sunnyhurst Hey reservoir and the lower parts from Fishmoor. Earnsdale reservoir is at present used as a reserve supply and the two supplementary supplies from the boreholes in the centre of the town and Eccleshill are also held in reserve.

The hardness of the water varies depending on the source of supply.

Regular bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Health Department and the Fylde Water Board.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied direct with public water is 11,891.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF FYLDE WATER BOARD WATERS

Results vary slightly according to the source of supply.

Examples are as follows:-

	<u>North Side</u> <u>of Town</u>	<u>SouthSide</u> <u>of Town.</u>
	Parts per million	Parts per million
Total Solids in Solution.....	80	80
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 15 mins.....	0.24	1.32
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 13 hours.....	0.44	2.40
Ammonia.....	0.005	0.005
Albuminoid Ammonia.....	0.01	0.05
Nitrogen as Nitrates.....	0.30	0.24
Nitrogen as Nitrites.....	Nil	Nil
Combined Chlorine.....	11	11
Free Chlorine.....	0.21	0.01
Total Hardness (as CaCO_3).....	36	30
Carbonate Hardness (as CaCO_3).....	9	14
Calcium (as CaCO_3).....	30	16
Lead.....	Nil	Nil
Copper.....	Nil	0.02
Zinc.....	Nil	Nil
Total Iron.....	0.06	0.48
Apparent Colour (Hazen Units).....	Colourless	35
pH Value.....	8.2	6.7

In a effort to encourage owners of property to install separate service pipes where the pressure is low, the Corporation and the Fylde Water Board pay half the cost of the installation.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

There are still a number of dwellings in the town which because of their situation have to rely on private water supplies and these are sampled at regular intervals. Users are advised on precautionary measures while steps are being taken for permanent purification. In addition every effort is made to change these private supplies to the public supply where practicable.

As a result of routine sampling in the latter part of the year, the private water supply at Bull Hill Hospital was found to have a lead content far in excess of the recommended standard.

This was thought to be due to the excessive rainfall which had fallen around that time and which had resulted in the water becoming unusually plumbo solvent.

In addition the bacteriological examination of some samples was unsatisfactory.

Immediate precautionary action was taken and later as a result of a meeting with the representatives of the Blackburn and District Hospital Management Board, arrangements were made to change to the Fylde Water Board supply.

As a result of complaints to the Fylde Water Board from this Department of low water pressure in the lower part of Exchange Street a new water main was laid during the year.

TABLES

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	5	5	0
Private supply	6	1	5

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	4	3	1
Private supply	16	8	8

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER (FYLDE WATER BOARD)

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	75	72	3

SEWERAGE

It was hoped that by the end of the year, that the only remaining houses in the town using pail closets, apart from farms and isolated cottages, would be connected to the main sewer.

These premises which are in the Upper Pole Lane area are situated immediately above the Pole Lane Housing Development, and plans are well advanced for the extension of the sewer to this area.

It is worthy of note that when this project is finalised, it will be the completion of satisfactory means of sewage disposal for fifty-two premises which otherwise would almost certainly have been considered for demolition.

The total number of septic tanks in the Borough is now 25.

Pail closets remaining the responsibility of the Corporation, a total of 35 in all, are used mainly in the parks and on building sites.

A further 24 waste water closets were converted to water closets during the year.

The total now remaining is 514.

As the present day cost of conversion is in the region of £50 - £60, it may well be that in an effort to clear the remainder of the waste water closets, the Health Committee will have to consider raising the amount of the grant which at the moment is £15: 15: 0d.

The table below gives the closet accommodation in the Borough :

Pails.....	88
Water Closets.....	14,167
Waste Water Closets.....	514

Total	14,769

Conversions and Installations during 1967 :-

New Water Closets fixed	128
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets.....	24
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets.....	1
Baths installed during the year.....	69
Showers installed during the year...	0
Waste Water Closets dismantled.....	Nil
Water Closets dismantled.....	153

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The river Darwen continues to be polluted by industrial waste effluents and used as a dumping ground for unwanted refuse.

No cases of gross contamination were reported to the Lancashire River Board during the year.

It may well be that the Corporation will have to consider the culverting of certain sections in the near future if development is to take place in the vicinity of the river.

CLEAN AIR

The Clean Air Act, 1956, and the accompanying regulations give local authorities powers to limit the emissions of dark smoke, powers to make smoke control areas and control over the installations of new furnaces and the height of chimneys.

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The object of smoke control is to reduce industrial smoke to a minimum and to make domestic premises smokeless.

At the end of the year, Darwen (No.1) and (No.2) Smoke Control Areas were in operation and the Darwen (No.3) Smoke Control Area had been confirmed in October, to come into operation on 1st July, 1968.

At the same time inspections were proceeding on the proposed No.3A Smoke Control Area, which together with Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Smoke Control Areas already confirmed will complete the whole of the domestic premises on the north side of the town from the Borough boundary to Hollins Grove Street on the east side and to Earnsdale Road on the west side.

A total of 491 visits were made during the year in connection with smoke control.

Details of Smoke Control Areas as at 31st December, 1967.

Areas	No.1 (1962) Operative date 1/10/63	No.2 (1966) Operative date 1/7/67	No.3. (1967) Operative date 1/7/68
Acreage	394	121	206
Private dwellings	551	401	418
Commercial premises	3	3	2
Industrial premises	6	4	6
Others	10	30	27

Future proposed plans are for Area No.4 which will be the inauguration of Smoke Control on the south side of the town, and this may well have to be divided into two separate areas because of the size, and the present economic situation. This will be followed later, if present plans materialize, by the Sunnyhurst district.

At the present rate of progress, the Smoke Control programme will not be completed until approximately 1981.

INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION

Factory chimneys are kept under constant observation and any unusual smoke emission is soon noted.

Out of a total of 225 visits made to factories during the year, a large proportion were in connection with boiler plant-smoke emission and installation of new plant.

One prosecution was instituted during the year.

The case was proved and the defendant fined a total of £30 together with £15.15.0d costs.

A breakdown at the Goose House Power Station for a few hours on the 11th May caused :-

- (i) excessive smoke emission,
- (ii) large quantities of oil smuts which were wind borne towards Blackburn Road and Birch Hall Estate; and
- (iii) excessive noise caused by the blowing-off of steam

Many complaints were received but the fault was quickly remedied.

The special apparatus to measure the daily amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere was transferred to the Darwen Technical College at the end of the year.

Monthly figures are sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory who circularize collated figures to Authorities taking part.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, makes provision for the health and welfare of the premises, other than members of the same family employed in certain types of premises.

At the end of the year 177 premises had been registered with the Local Authority in accordance with the Act and 232 visits made by Inspectors throughout the year.

Shops employing members of the same family and shops employing people part-time do not come within the scope of the Act.

In addition certain offices come directly under the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector.

The requirements requesting fire precautions are dealt with directly by the Darwen Section of the Lancashire County Fire Brigade.

15 Informal notices were served throughout the year in respect of contraventions found.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

No accidents were reported during the year.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	40	243
Retail Shops	110	407
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	9	40
Catering Establishments and Canteens	16	97
Fuel Storage Depots	2	23
Total	177	810

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	9	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	165	216	Nil	Nil
Total Carried Forward	176	225	Nil	Nil

FACTORIES ACT, 1961. Continued.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Total Brought Forward	176	225	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	18	12	1	Nil

PART VIII of the Act - Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in send ing lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instan- ces of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Pros- ecut- ions
Wearing Apparel (making etc.)	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In all a total of 237 visits were made to Factories throughout the year and the defects found mainly in connection with the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences were quickly remedied and did not require official action.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following are established in the district :-

Two tripe boilers, one fat extractor and one fat melter.

MUNICIPAL HOSTEL

This is the only common lodging house in the town and is municipally owned and managed. The average daily number of lodgers for the year was :-

Males	94.11
Females.....	12.08

78 visits were made to the Hostel throughout the year.

Shop.

Because of the closure of two shops in the neighbourhood, and the difficulties of some of the older occupants of the Hostel in walking any distance for essential foodstuffs, a shop was opened in the Hostel in early October, as an experiment.

By the end of the year, support for the shop indicated that not only would it be an asset for the inmates, but also a useful source of revenue for the Corporation.

RODENT CONTROL. DISINFESTATION OF RATS AND MICE.

This section of the Department had another busy year. Apart from the dangers of food poisoning, rats cause enormous destruction of foodstuffs and materials, and as most infestations can be traced to broken and settled drains, it is essential that the sewer population of rats is controlled. It is for this reason that the sewers are baited twice yearly by the poison baiting of all the manholes in the town.

A great deal of time is also spent in smoke testing of suspected drains in an effort to trace the source of rat complaints.

NO. OF PREMISES INSPECTED	NO. OF PREMISES FOUND INFESTED	NO. OF TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT	
		FULL	TEST
192	63	63	97

SEWER TREATMENTS

DATE	NO.OF MANHOLES TREATED
April	226
October	232

DISINFESTATION

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of certain types of insect pests, but these normally are controlled fairly easily by insecticides.

Cockroaches when well established sometimes cause difficulty.

Apart from cockroaches, treatments have also been carried out throughout the year for wasps, golden spider beetles, silver fish, flies etc.

There is no charge for this service or disinfestation for rats and mice for domestic premises.

During the year 46 premises were visited following complaints.

SCHOOLS

During the past few years, building of new schools to replace some of the older ones and modernization of others has steadily proceeded resulting in a big improvement in sanitary and washing facilities.

LICENSED PREMISES.

The steady progress in the improvement of the sanitary accommodation was maintained throughout the year and now a very high percentage of the licensed premises in the town have modern internal facilities installed.

74 inspections and 116 reinspections were made throughout the year.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The paving, culverting, embanking and, as far as possible, purification of the river.

The clearance of derelict and neglected sites.

The reduction of the number of private water supplies and the purification and protection of the remainder.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number of houses visited.....	1,820
Number of inspections of factories and workplaces.....	225
Number of inspections of bakehouses.....	135
Number of inspections of refuse tips.....	42
Complaints received and investigated.....	323
Number of re-inspections made.....	5,647
Visits paid to houses (re cases of infectious diseases)....	33
Number of smoke observations taken.....	5
Number of drains tested.....	201
Total number of defects discovered.....	275
Informal notices served.....	275
Statutory notices served.....	49
Number of nuisances abated, including outstanding nuisances from previous year.....	374

LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED

Defective drains.....	110
Choked and defective sewers.....	39
Defective soil pipes and water closets.....	10
Defective downspouts, gutters, roofs & external walls	30
Defective plastering.....	9
Defective roofs and damp walls.....	16
Dirty houses and premises.....	0
Dirty and dilapidated closet buildings.....	22
Accumulation of refuse.....	1
Defective fire-ranges.....	1
Choked waste water closets.....	8
Choked water closets.....	12
Insanitary yards.....	2
Defective internal floors.....	1
Insufficient ventilation.....	2
Burst water pipes.....	1
Miscellaneous nuisances.....	28

H O U S I N G

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The table below gives particulars of action taken specifically under the provisions of the Housing Acts in contradistinction to action under the Public Health Acts.

STATISTICS

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year :-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b).....	144
(i) By Local Authority.....	52
(ii) By other Local Authorities.....	0
(iii) By other bodies or persons.....	92
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :-	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above).....	52
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a)(iii)above).....	0

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	300
(2) Number of inspections made for both purposes.....	336
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	15
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	2

STATISTICS. Continued.

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	6
--	---

Action under statutory powers during the year.
Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:-	
---	--

Preliminary.....	5
Statutory.....	5

(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after services of formal notices :-	
---	--

By owners.....	0
By Local Authority in default of owners.....	1

Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	6
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in ownership of Local Authority dealt with in accordance with Section 3 (3a) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, as directed in Appendix 11 of Circular 33/56 with a view to demolition.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	113
(iv) Number of houses demolished where action has been taken under Section 53 of the Over Darwen Improvement Act, 1879.	Nil

STATISTICS. Continued.

(v) Number of dwelling-houses closed as a result of Closing Orders made under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.....	29
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Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	0
(b) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	0
(c) Houses closed informally by owners.....	0

Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders.....	0
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Housing Acts, 1949 - 1958. Discretionary Grants.

Number of schemes submitted and approved :-	
(i) By private individuals to Local Authority...	6
(ii) By Local Authority.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	6
Number of schemes approved :-	
(i) Of private individuals.....	5
(ii) Of the Local Authority.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	5
(iv) Number of additional separate dwellings provided.....	1

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 and HOUSING
ACTS, 1961 and 1964, STANDARD GRANTS.

Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	206
(b) reduced standard.....	0
Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	203
(b) reduced standard.....	0
Work completed.....	175

OVERCROWDING

There is one case of overcrowding known to the Health Department, but because of the general circumstances of the family has been licenced under the provisions of Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Overcrowding as to mixed sexes in families, not involving legal overcrowding occurs from time to time, but with the help of the Housing Department these cases are quickly attended to.

CLEARANCE AREAS

By the end of the year, although no clearance areas had been officially resolved, the Corporation were gradually acquiring houses offered for sale by owners in property affected by future redevelopment.

Sixty-nine houses, mainly in prospective clearance areas were acquired, making a total of 163 houses acquired in all in redevelopment areas over the last few years.

Other unoccupied premises have been bricked-up to prevent nuisance until such time as they can be dealt with.

29 premises were officially closed and 113 premises were demolished during the year.

It is hoped that new housing schemes will be commenced shortly and then the first phase of the Corporation's clearance schemes can go ahead.

In the meantime individual inspections of premises to be cleared is continuing.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Two premises are used for multiple occupation. Work required following inspections, including fire precaution inspection by the Darwen Division of the Lancashire County Fire Brigade, to comply with legislation had been completed in both of the premises by the end of the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

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The Local Authority, is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963.

The following licences have been issued under these Regulations.

Untreated Milk	17
Pasteurised Milk.....	54
Sterilised Milk.....	117
Ultra Heat Treated Milk.....	28
Total	216

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Total No. of samples submitted.....	111	Results		
		Positive	Negative	No Result
Tuberculosis.....		Nil	49	62
Brucellosis Ring Test		20	77	14
" Culture Test		11	13	87
" Biological Test		1	46	64

The positive culture cases of Brucellosis were followed-up at the farms concerned and as a result of individual sampling of the herds the animals secreting positive Brucella organisms were isolated and later slaughtered. The farmers in each case were most co-operative.

Samples of Milk for Statutory Tests.

	No. of Samples	Results		
		Satisfactory	Unsat- isfactory	Void Samples
Raw Milk:				
Methylene Blue Test	104	82	21	1
Heat Treated Milk:				
Methylene Blue	1	1	Nil	Nil
Phosphatase Test	1	1	Nil	Nil
Turbidity Test	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colony Count Test	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The twenty-one samples unsatisfactorily reported on were passed on for appropriate action to the Divisional Milk Officer.

Chemical Analysis of Milk

Thirty-one samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. With the exception of two all were genuine.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Type of Business	No. Registered at end of year	No. of Inspections of registered premises during year
Preserved Food Manufacturers	19	33
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers and/or Sellers	135	101

Action taken under the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1959 and 1963.

Routine inspections of ice cream manufacturers was carried out. Three samples of ice cream were satisfactorily reported on as genuine.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Samples Taken and Reported Genuine.

No. of Samples	Description	Formal	Informal
29	Milk.....	24	5
1	English Bramley Seedling Apples....		1
1	Home Killed Ox Liver.....		1
1	Pure Jersey Cream.....		1
1	White Grapes in Syrup.....		1
1	Sour Grapes Bubble Gum.....		1
1	Finest English Turkey in Mushroom and Wine Sauce.....		1
1	Wheatsheaf Quality Milk Top.....		1
1	Lancashire Cheese.....		1
1	Cheddar Cheese.....		1
1	Beef Sausage.....		1
1	Baxter's Royal Game Soup.....		1
1	Salmon Spread.....		1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Samples Taken and Reported Genuine.Continued.

No. of Samples	Description	Formal	Informal
1	Nine Vitamin Health Drink		1
1	Brewer's Tonic Yeast		1
1	Leicester Cheese		1
1	Chocolate Wholemeal Biscuits		1
1	Baby Food Rice and Chicken		1
1	Slippery Elm Easy Digest Food		1
1	Expectorant		1

Samples Taken and Reported Not Genuine.

Cons. No.	No. of Samples	Description	Formal	Informal	Result	Action Taken
1	1	Milk		x	Deficient 3.3% fat	Producer notified
2	1	Milk		x	Deficient 3.3% fat and low in solids-not-fat	Producer notified

Legal proceedings taken with regard to the preparation, storage, handling or sale of food.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2. Glass in a bottle of milk. Absolute discharge.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2. Foreign body in sausage. Absolute discharge on payment of £7.7.0d costs.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

Type of Business	Number
General grocers and provision dealers.....	70
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.).....	36
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc).	4
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.).....	48
Bakers and/ or confectioners.....	40
Fried fish shops.....	17
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.....	133
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments.....	58
Basement bakehouses.....	2
Others.....	Nil

OTHER ACTION TAKEN FOLLOWING COMPLAINTS REGARDING FOOD.

Article	Complaint	Action
Milk Roll.	Wasp embedded in.	Firm warned.
Brown Loaf.	Colouring matter.	No action.
Bottle of Milk.	Twig.	Firm warned.
Bread.	Mouldy.	Firm warned.
Bottle of Milk.	Sandy detritus.	Firm warned.
Currant Teacake.	Human hair.	Firm warned.
Chicken and Pork		
Savoury Spread.	Small bone.	Firm warned.
Scotch Pancakes.	Stale.	No action.
Processed Peas.	Pea weevil.	Firm warned.
Stewed Steak.	Muslin cloth.	Firm warned.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

Food premises in general maintain a high standard and the regular visits of the Department's Inspectors help to remind food handlers of the importance of the Regulations.

Minor infringements were quickly remedied by informal action and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Total of 632 inspections with 1,273 re-inspections were carried out throughout the year.

UNSOUND FOOD.

48 visits in all were made regarding the certification of food not fit for human consumption. These were in the main due to voluntary surrender by shopkeepers and warehouses, but in some cases were detected during routine inspections or as a result of complaints.

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING, 1967.

Amount	Nature of Food	Amount	Nature of Food
228 tins	Assorted Fruit	2 jars	Fruit
41 tins	Assorted Vegetables	28 tins	Soup
4 tins	Milk	20 tins	Ham
3 tins	Corned Beef	20 tins	Pork Luncheon Meat
4 tins	Steak	1 tin	Ox Tongue
3 tins	Pork	1 jar	Mincemeat
31 tins	Tomatoes	4 tins	Rice Pudding
6 jars	Piccalilli	2 tins	Orange Juice
2 tins	Spaghetti	2 tins	Salmon
1 tin	Butter Beans	11 tins	Beans
1 tin	Tonic Water	4 tins	Cream
11 tins	Steak Puddings	3 tins	Minced Beef & Dumplings
2 tins	Andrew Liver Salts	2 tins	Pilchards
1 tin	Prawns	2 tins	Treacle Pudding
1 tin	Tuna Steak	1 bottle	Composition Essence
1 tin	Mixed Fruit Pudding	4 jars	Marmalade
63 pkts	Cheese	19 pkts	Raisins
10 jars	Jam	6 jars	Beetroot
10 pkts	Toffees	10 jars	Mixed Pickles
1 jar	Minced Turkey		

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING, 1967. Continued

Amount	Nature of Food	Amount	Nature of Food
14 jars	Sweet Pickle	5 jars	Lemon Cheese
10 pkts	Dates	6 drums	Salt
6 pkts	Crisps	5 tins	Bournvita
10 pkts	Farex Cereal	4 jars	Red Cabbage
1 jar	Salad Cream	1 bottle	Lemon Flavouring
1 jar	Vegetable & Lamb	3 bottles	Quosh Bitter Lemon
4 pkts	Custard Powder	1 tin	Junior Dinners
1 pkt	Dried Peas	2½ doz.	Eggs
3½ boxes	Apples	35	Peaches
33 lbs	Cooked Boneless Ham	8 lbs	Ham
63 lbs	Pork Shoulder	12 lbs	Lamb joints
16 lbs	Pork	17 lbs	Pork Pic-nics
34 lbs	Lamb	40 lbs	Lamb's Liver
44 lbs	Chicken	4	Offcuts Prague Ham

GENERAL SANITATION

Houses in "twilight" areas are a matter of grave concern.

As the time for clearance draws nearer, houses are being abandoned at an alarming rate and vandalism is rife.

Areas which, not so many years ago, were neat and tidy now have a "blitzed" appearance and the Corporation are being hard pressed to preserve a reasonably orderly appearance of some sections of the town.

It is hoped now that the building of new houses has been finalized, that the representation of clearance areas will soon be a reality.

Nuisance from Noise.

A great deal of time has been spent during the year on the investigation of noise nuisances particularly caused by night time working.

Due to the co-operation of the factories concerned, the noise level has been reduced in some cases and work was in progress at others.

The emission of fumes, following the installation of new machinery, from one large factory has caused a great deal of concern for the Department, and many visits have been made in an effort to reduce the volume. At the end of the year, further equipment had been ordered in an effort to reduce still further the nuisance value of the fumes.

Tips.

Many visits were necessary to the various private tips throughout the town as a result of complaints and through nuisances discovered by the Department. These arose in practically every instance through deviation from the terms of the original planning consent and tipping byelaws and although conditions were still not satisfactory at the end of the year a great improvement had been made.

Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning.

A total of 75 visits were made during the year regarding the investigation of infectious diseases. There were no cases of Food Poisoning reported during the year.

Shops Act, 1950.

The provisions of the Act regarding closing hours, early closing, Sunday trading and the employment of young persons is administered by the Department.

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950. (Movement of Animals).

The duties under this Section of the Act are carried out by the Lancashire County Police who issued all the necessary licences controlling the movement of animals.

Hairdressing Establishments.

There are 72 hairdressing premises registered under the provisions of the Darwen Corporation Act, 1948.

Premises are inspected prior to opening and work done to comply with the Regulations.

Reinspections are carried out from time to time but very little trouble is experienced with this type of business after the initial alterations are carried out.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

2 premises are licensed under this Act. Both were satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

5 premises are licensed under the provisions of this Act. All were satisfactorily maintained during the year for the welfare of animals although in one case considerable work was required before the premises were licensed.

Riding Establishments Act, 1964.

One establishment was licensed under the Act. Premises are only licensed after the receipt of a satisfactory veterinary report.

National Assistance Act, 1948 and 1951.

No action was necessary during the year under Section 47 of the 1948 Act, for the removal of persons in need of care and attention.

Four bodies were buried under the provisions of Section 50 of the 1948 Act, which requires the Local Authority to dispose of the bodies of persons who have died in its area if it appears no suitable funeral arrangements would otherwise be made.

Mortuary.

This modern building which was opened in February, 1957, is a model of its kind. A part-time attendant is employed.

51 bodies were received at the Mortuary during the year and post-mortem examinations were carried out on 50.

